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STEEL ENTERPRISES REPORT PROGRESS; BELORUSSIAN METALLURGY DEVELOPS

PLANTS SPUR HIGH-SPEED PRODUCTION -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 218, 13 Sep 49

Metallurgical enterprises in Moscow city and oblast have fulfilled and exceeded the 8-month plan. Reconstruction and mechanization of shops is going full speed at several enterprises. The pipe plant has mechanized loading and unloading of finished products and has modernized the electric-welding machine. The machinery-repair shop of the "Proletarskiy trud" Plant has been reconstructed and set up in a new building.

Leningradskaya Pravda, No 216, 13 Sep 49

The Konstantinovka Metallurgical Plant imeni Frunze has so far this year completed 1,000 high-speed melts. Large-scale cold repair of an open-hearth furnace, usually completed in 8-10 days, is now done in 3-4 days and hot repair has been cut from the usual 30 hours to 20 hours. A group of engineers has developed a new method of firing the furnace after repair, completing this operation in 62 hours instead of 72. The plant has considerably exceeded prewar norms. The yield of steel per square meter of furnace sole is now 6.4 tons, a half ton more than in the best prewar months. Since 1946, the plant has doubled its output of steel without having put into operation any new facilities.

Pravda Ukrainy, No 218, 15 Sep 49

The norm for average yield of steel per square meter of furnace sole at the "Zaporozhstal'" Plant is 5 tons.

Izvestiya, No 219, 16 Sep 49

A steelworker in the Verkh-Isetskiy Metallurgical Plant, Sverdlovsk Oblast, recently completed a record heavy melt of high-grade steel in an electric furnace in 4 hours 20 minutes, as compared with the norm of 6 hours. The planned capacity of the furnace was almost doubled.

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Trud, No 216, 13 Sep 49

The Lys'va Metallurgical Plant has completed its year plan for steel smelting, exceeded the mean progressive norm for removal of steel per square meter of furnace sole by 0.2 tons, and is producing only first-grade steel.

Pravda Ukrainy, No 218, 15 Sep 49

The Metallurgical Plant imeni Il'ich, in Zhdanov, has completed more than 600 high-speed melts since the beginning of 1949.

Pravda, No 216, 13 Sep 49

At the beginning of the year, high-speed smelting methods accounted for only 15-20 percent of total production in Leningrad metallurgical enterprises. The proportion is now almost up to 50 percent and, in individual open-hearth furnaces, is as high as 80 percent.

Moskovskiy Komsomolets, No 114, 17 Sep 49

A brigade in the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Plant imeni Petrovskiy has completed 350 melts in one furnace between repairs, a record furnace run for the plant. The usual run is 200-250 melts, after which the furnace must undergo major repair, with replacement of the roof, walls, and checkered brickwork. This brigade also obtains as much as 10.5 tons of steel per square meter of furnace sole which is 1½ times the progressive norm.

In the first half of 1949, steelworkers in the Stalingrad "Krasnyy Oktyabr'" Metallurgical Plant completed 469 melts in one furnace run, a record which has not been achieved in the plant for a number of years.

The record furnace run between repairs at the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Combine imeni Stalin is 207 melts, 30-50 melts above the usual run.

Vechernyaya Moskva, No 217, 12 Sep 49

The furnace-repair shop of the Metallurgical Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy has reduced the time for repair of an open-hearth furnace from the norm of 6 days to 4 days. As many as 24 different mechanisms are used in the repair of each furnace with the resultant cut in manpower consumption.

TWO PLANTS SHORT OF QUOTAS -- Pravda Vostoka, No 185, 18 Sep 49

The Uzbek Metallurgical Plant, Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry USSR, completed only 73 percent of the August gross-production plan and 93 percent of the month steel production plan. Steel production in August was 185 percent of the August 1948 level.

Trud, No 219, 16 Sep 49

Despite the increase in the number of high-speed melts at the Dnepropetrovsk Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy, the plant is not meeting the plan. In the first half of the year, open-hearth shop No 2 completed nearly 900 high-speed steel melts in August : both shops achieved more than 200 high-speed melts. The plant is now lagging in all chief aspects of metallurgical production, failed to complete the 6-month plan, and has deteriorated even further in July and August. The general disorganization in the shops is the chief cause for the lag.

High-speed melts cannot make up the loss of time incurred in other operations. Output of steel frequently occurs simultaneously in two or three furnaces, although the shops are not prepared to handle the removal of several melts at one time. In the first half of 1949, the second open-hearth shop lost nearly 6,000 tons of steel because of defects. The plant fulfilled only 84.9 percent of the August steel-production plan, and the record is even worse for blast furnace and rolled steel production.

STEEL PRODUCTS PLANTS SUCCESSFUL -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 211, 7 Sep 49

The Novotrubnyy Plant imeni Stalin in Sverdlovsk is exceeding the average monthly output planned for 1950 by 15 percent, and in 7 months released 25 million more rubles than planned.

Trud, No 218, 15 Sep 49

The "Lenstankolit" Plant, Leningrad, has completed a cylinder for a high-pressure turbine and has shipped it to the Plant imeni Stalin. The cylinder is the third which the plant has made from metal saved by means of such technological innovations as reducing the overflow in pouring. Each cylinder weighs 27 tons and is the largest casting made by the plant this year. The plant expects to complete a fourth cylinder from saved metal for the Plant imeni Stalin by 15 October.

Vechernyaya Moskva, No 219, 14 Sep 49

The Moscow "Stankolit" Plant supplies high-grade castings to the Stalingrad Tractor Plant. The redistribution of equipment which is now underway in the plant will release new production space and enable the plant to produce an additional 500 tons of iron steel castings by the end of the year.

PROPOSES BELORUSSIAN METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY -- Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 182, 13 Sep 49

The use of peat as a blast-furnace fuel, with both the usual and the oxygen blast, and the addition of oxygen to the blast in metallurgical production, both of which processes are now being put into industrial practice, promise to bring a complete revolution in metallurgical production. These innovations make possible the creation of a metallurgical industry in the Belorussian SSR and the elimination of long-distance transport of metal. More extensive and complex utilization of Belorussian peat resources will be possible by the creation of a chemical-metallurgical industry. High-caloric blast-furnace gas can be used for fuel and power purposes and for the creation of a number of chemical processes using peat tars, etc. Estimates indicate the extreme effectiveness of this organization of chemical-metallurgical production in the Belorussian SSR. -- B. Sysoyev, Candidate in Economic Sciences.

FIRST BELORUSSIAN STEEL PRODUCTION -- Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 183, 14 Sep 49

The Ministry of Local Industry, Belorussian SSR, and its enterprises have a number of important projects which must be further developed. One of these is Professor Ulitovskiy's method of producing roofing and sheet iron from pig iron. The use of this method will give excellent results because of the relatively low cost of installation and the slight, as compared with the usual, consumption of electric power. In addition, the prospect of obtaining rolled sheet iron from ordinary grey pig iron is of special importance to the Belorussian SSR which does not have its own metallurgical industry.

One local industry enterprise in the republic has built an installation for smelting steel by an oxygen blast. The installation, completed in the second quarter 1949, has undergone its first three tests with satisfactory results. This is the first steel smelting in the republic.

The ministry also proposes in the near future to introduce the method of centrifugal casting of pipe in the Mogilev Pipe-Casting Plant. The Baranovichi Mechanized Foundry has been using this method in casting parts for five pumps. By substantial improvements in its technology, made during 1949, the plant increased the output of fire pumps in the first half of the year 250 percent over 1948 and has decreased costs 35 percent more than planned.

The Mogilev Pipe-Casting Plant has converted to the use of peat gas instead of coke in drying mold boxes, thereby decreasing the consumption of coke per ton of finished pipe by 150 kilograms. The plant is now preparing to convert the soaking furnaces in the sheet rolling shop to peat gas which will improve quality of rolled products and will save peat. -- M. Zhukovskiy, Vice Minister of Local Industry, Belorussian SSR

SPECTRAL ANALYSIS PROGRAM DELAYED -- Pravda, No 216, 13 Sep 49

The introduction of the spectral analysis method in Leningrad plants has been held up by the lack of specialized personnel. Several months ago, the Scientific Engineering and Technical Society of Metallurgists decided to organize courses in spectral analysis, but the lack of a training program has delayed further progress.

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